<center>**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**</center>

Please accept amended Claims 11, 16-19, 22 and 23 as follows.

Listing of claims.

1-10. (Cancelled)


11. (Currently Amended) A method for ensuring that a processor will execute only authorized <u>boot</u> code, said method comprising:

      reading a certificate including a first public key into a protected memory;

      validating said certificate with a second public key permanently stored on said processor;

      reading a signed authorized <u>boot</u> code into said protected memory, wherein said protected memory is cryptographically protected;

      ~~preparing to execute said signed authorized code from the protected memory by~~ verifying a digital signature used to sign said signed authorized <u>boot</u> code in accordance with said first public key; ~~and~~

      <u>executing, by the processor, said signed authorized boot code having a verified digital signature by</u> branching to a copy of said signed authorized <u>boot</u> code in said protected memory<u>,</u> <u>said signed authorized boot code including instructions for performing a boot process for a computer device comprising the processor, wherein said digital signature of said signed authorized boot code is previously verified</u> ~~to begin execution~~ <u>and executing further comprises</u> performing inline decryption of the copy of said signed authorized <u>boot</u> code in said protected memory ~~upon verifying said digital signature.~~


12. (Cancelled)

<center>2</center>

13. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 11 wherein the integrity of the contents of said protected memory is protected by encryption using a cryptographic key stored on said processor.

14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 11 wherein said protected memory is physically protected.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 11 wherein the integrity of said authorized boot code is protected at run time.

17. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 16 wherein the integrity of said authorized boot code is protected with symmetric key encryption.

18. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 11 wherein the privacy of said authorized boot code is protected at run time.

19. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 18 wherein the privacy of said authorized boot code is protected at run time with symmetric key encryption.

20-21. (Cancelled)

3

22. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform program steps for ensuring that a processor will execute only authorized code, the program steps comprising:

reading a certificate including a first public key into a protected memory;

validating said certificate with a second public key permanently stored on said processor;

reading a signed authorized <u>boot</u> code into said protected memory, wherein said protected memory is cryptographically protected;

~~preparing to execute said signed authorized code from the protected memory by~~ verifying a digital signature used to sign said signed authorized <u>boot</u> code in accordance with said first public key; ~~and~~

<u>executing said signed authorized boot code having a verified digital signature by</u> branching to a copy of said signed authorized <u>boot</u> code in said protected memory<u>, said signed authorized boot code including instructions for performing a boot process for a computer device comprising the processor, wherein said digital signature of said signed authorized boot code is previously verified</u> ~~to begin execution~~ and <u>executing further comprises</u> performing inline decryption of the copy of said signed authorized <u>boot</u> code in said protected memory ~~upon verifying said digital signature~~.

23. (Currently Amended) A computing device for securely executing authorized code, said computing device comprising:

a protected memory for storing signed authorized code, which contains an original digital signature, wherein said protected memory is cryptographically protected; and

4

a processor comprising inline cryptography and integrity hardware for executing boot code in signal communication with said protected memory ~~for preparing to execute~~ executing said signed authorized code from the protected memory ~~by~~ for booting the computing device after verifying that a digital signature contained in said signed authorized code is original in accordance with a first public key stored in said protected memory, said first public key validated by a second public key permanently stored on said processor, and ~~if said original digital signature is verified, then~~ branching to a copy of said authorized code in said protected memory to begin the execution.

24. (Previously Presented) A computing device as recited in claim 23 wherein the integrity of the contents of said protected memory is protected by encryption.

25. (Previously Presented) A computing device as recited in claim 23 wherein said protected memory is physically protected.

26. (Previously Presented) A computing device as recited in claim 23 wherein at least one of the integrity of said authorized code and the privacy of said authorized code is protected at run time.

27. (Previously Presented) A computing device as recited in claim 23 wherein the integrity of said signed authorized code is protected at run time with symmetric key encryption.

28. (Previously Presented) A computing device as recited in claim 23, wherein the privacy of said signed authorized code is protected at run time with symmetric key encryption.